

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated May 22, 2007. Claims 14 and 16-19 remain pending in this application. Claim 15 has been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Claims 14, 18, and 19, the independent claims, have been amended to define more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication that Claim 15 would be allowable if rewritten so as not to depend from a rejected claim, and with no change in scope. Since independent Claims 14, 18, and 19 have been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of allowable Claim 15, they are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, Claims 14 and 17-19 were rejected under U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,628,822 to *Nakabayashi et al.* Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from *Nakabayashi et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,272,518 to *Vincent*.

As noted above, since independent Claims 14, 18, and 19 have been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of allowable Claim 15, they are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from Claim 14, and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R A DiPerna', written over a horizontal line.

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